

August 29, 2005

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Free Immunizations Available for Children During 'Day of Caring'

South Central District Health and the United Way of South Central Idaho, through a grant from Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, are hoping to give a boost to immunization levels by offering free immunizations to children.

Free clinics to help improve immunization levels for south central Idaho children are scheduled for Sept. 12, 13, and 14 at South Central District Health offices in Bellevue, Burley, Gooding, Jerome, Rupert, and Twin Falls. Funds being provided by Magic Valley Regional Medical Center through the United Way of South Central Idaho will cover the cost of the usual administration fee of \$16 per child for all state-supplied childhood immunizations during each scheduled free clinic. Although any child under age 19 needing childhood immunizations can receive the free service, two groups are especially targeted for these clinics: Birth to 2-year-olds and 12- to 18-year-olds.

Children who are under the age of 2 are often behind on their fourth shot of Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTaP) vaccine. Teens age 12 to 18 are often need their second MMR immunization if they were born after 1989.

The dates and locations of the free clinics are as follows:

CITY	FREE CLINIC DATE	LOCATION	BY APPOINTMENT	
	AND TIME		ONLY	
Bellevue	Tuesday, Sept. 13	SCDH Office	By appointment only	
	3 - 6  p.m.	117 East Ash St.	Call 788-4335	
		788-4335		
Burley	Monday, Sept. 12	SCDH Office	By appointment only	
	3 - 6  p.m.	2311 Parke Ave., Unit 4, Ste. 4	Call 678-8221	
	_	678-8221		
		more		

Gooding	Tuesday, Sept. 13 3 – 6 p.m.	SCDH Office 145 7 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East. 934-4477	By appointment only Call 934-4477		
Jerome	Monday, Sept. 12 3 – 6 p.m.	SCDH Office 951 East Avenue H 324-8838	By appointment only Call 324-8838		
Rupert	Wednesday, Sept. 14 3 – 6 p.m.	SCDH Office 1218 9 <sup>th</sup> St., Suite 15 436-7185	By appointment only Call 436-7185		
Twin Falls	Tuesday, Sept. 13 3 – 6 p.m.	SCDH Office 1020 Washington St. North 734-5900	By appointment only Call 734-5900		

United Way and SCDH have offered similar free immunization clinics in past years.

Idaho's new Immunization Law requires five doses of Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis (DTP), three doses of Polio, two doses of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR), and three doses of Hepatitis B (for all children born on or after November 22, 1991) before children can enter school.

In addition to the recommended doses for children entering school, it is suggested that all school age children receive Chickenpox (Varicella), Hepatitis A, and a fourth dose of Polio vaccine. A booster dose of Tetanus (Td) for all students aged 11 to 18 is also strongly encouraged.

South Central District Health recommends that children receive immunizations on the following schedule:

## **GENERAL SCHEDULE FOR IMMUNIZATIONS**

AGE⇒ VACCINE ↓	BIRTH	2 MOS	4 MOS	6 MOS	12-18 MOS	2 YEARS	4-6 YEARS	11-12 YEARS
DTaP								
Polio								
MMR								
Hib								
Hep B								
PCV								
Varicella								
Hep A								
Td								